Guiding Questions for Planning, Revising, and Refining an Empirical Research Article

1. Why is this topic important in research into learning and teaching, to whom is it important, and why at this time?

2. What previous research has been undertaken on this topic? What is your contribution to the literature and the learning/teaching conversation?

3. What is your argument or stance? What questions are you addressing?

4. What is your underlying conceptual or theoretical framework? If appropriate, what are your hypotheses?

5. What are your research methods, and what is the rationale for your approach?
    - What data have you collected and how?
    - Who are your participants?
    - What is the context (e.g. discipline, institution, nation)?

From *Writing about Learning and Teaching in Higher Education: Creating and Contributing to Scholarly Conversations across a Range of Genres* by Healey, Matthews, and Cook-Sather. Elon University Center for Engaged Learning, 2020. https://doi.org/10.36284/celelon.oa3.

6. How have you analyzed the data?

7. What are your findings, and what do they contribute to the ongoing learning and teaching conversation?

8. How do your findings compare with previous research?

9. How do you handle/present unexpected findings?

10. How does the context influence your findings? What are the implications for others in different contexts?

11. What are the limitations of your research? What unanswered questions remain? What other questions follow for future learning and teaching research?

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